Karnataka Education Bill, 1983

635. SHRI J. P. JAVALI : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Karnataka Education Bill, 1983 submitted by the Karnataka Government has been pending with Education Department since 1984; and

(b) if so, what are the reasons for delay in this regard and by when the said Bill would be given approval by Government?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF EDUCATION AND CULTURE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI L. P. SHAHI) : (a) and (b) The Karnataka Education Bill, 1983 was received in the Department of Education in June, 1984. As the Education Policy had been taken up for formulation, it was decided at that stage to keep the Bill pending till the policy was finalised. After formulation of the National Policy on Education 1986, the Bill was examined in reference to the provisions of the Policy and detailed discussions were held on 24-6-87 at the level at Ministers. The points on which the Ministry had reservations were conveyed to the State Government so that they could either rectify the problems or explain these. Later, it was found that the comments given by the Government of Karnataka did not elaborate any provsion further.

So, to resolve the issues of Education Secretary invited the Education Secretary of Karnataka and discussed the issues on 27-7-88. It has been possible during the discussion, to arrive at an understanding at official level in regard to the provisions of the Bill on which the Ministry had difficulty. The Eudcation Secretary, Karnataka had said that he will obtain the formal views of the State Government of Karnataka in view of the discussion and communicate those to the Ministry. This is awaited.

Demand to Attach the Kolhapur-Miraj Pune Railway Division with Central Railway

636. SHRI PRAMOD MAHAJAN : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware of the growing demand to attach Kolhapur-Miraj-Pune Railway Division with the Central Railway;

(b) if so, what is Government's reaction thereto; and

(c) if the answer to part (a) above be in the negative, what are the reasons for not attaching this Division with the Central Railway?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) The jurisdiction of a Railway Division/Zone is decided with reference to administrative and operational requirement consistent with the needs of efficiency. In view of the above, it is not considered desirable to disturb the existing arrangement. However, the suggestion has been noted.

Rail Link with Kashmir Valley

637. SHRI PRAMOD MAHAJAN: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Railways are proposing to have rail link with the Kashmir Valley; and

(b) if so, what are the details in this regard?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MAHABIR PRASAD) : (a) No, Sir, only a techno-economic feasibility study for a rail link from Udhampur to Qazigund has been taken up.

(b) Does not arise.